

Attorney's Docket: 2003DE430

Serial No.: 10/562,097

Filed: 12/21/2005

Response to Office Action Mailed 10/28/2008

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.(Currently Amended) A method for demulsifying an oil/water emulsion, said method comprising adding an alkoxylated ~~alkylated~~ dendrimer to said oil/water emulsion in an amount from 0.0001 to 5% by weight, based on the oil content of the emulsion to be demulsified, said alkoxylated ~~alkylated~~ dendrimer being a dendritic polyester having a molecular weight of from 2400 to 100 000 g/mol, the molecular weight determined by GPC using polyethylene as standard, which was said dendritic polyester being alkoxylated with C₂-C₄-alkylene oxide groups or a mixture of C₂-C₄-alkylene oxide groups to provide the alkoxylated dendrimer with an average degree of alkoxylation of from 1 to 100 alkylene oxide units per free OH group, wherein the dendritic polyester has a starting alcohol and a dendritic growth component, said starting alcohol is selected from the group consisting of a mono-alcohol, di-alcohol, and polyfunctional alcohol, and the dendritic growth component is a carboxylic acid which has at least two hydroxyl groups.

2.(Canceled)

3.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~claim 2~~, where the starting alcohol is selected from the group consisting of bis(trimethylolpropane), bis(trimethylolethane), dipentaerythritol, pentaerythritol, alkoxylated pentaerythritol, trimethylolethane, trimethylolpropane, alkoxylated trimethylolpropane, glycerol,

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diglycerol, triglycerol, polyglycerol, neopentyl glycol, dimethylolpropane, sorbitol, and
mannitol, ~~and mixtures thereof.~~

4.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~claim-2~~, where the carboxylic acid is selected from the group consisting of dimethylolpropanoic acid, α,α -bis(hydroxymethyl)butanoic acid, α,α,α -tris(hydroxymethyl)ethanoic acid, α,α -bis(hydroxymethyl)pentanoic acid, α,α -bis(hydroxy)propanoic acid, and 3,5-dihydroxybenzoic acid, ~~and mixtures thereof.~~

5.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of the alkoxyated dendrimer ~~has a molecular weight of~~ is from 10 000 to 50 000 g/mol.

6.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~claim-2~~, in which the average degree of alkoxylation is between 1 and 70 alkylene oxide units per free OH group.

7.(Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, in which the C₂-C₄-alkylene oxide is ethylene oxide or propylene oxide or a mixture thereof.

8.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, in which the mixture of C₂-C₄-alkylene oxide groups is a mixture of ethylene oxide and propylene oxide with [[the]] a ratio from 1:2 to 1:10.

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9.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, where the alkoxyated dendrimer is crosslinked with a ~~crosslinker~~crosslinker selected from the group consisting of bisphenol A diglycidyl ether, butane-1,4-diol diglycidyl ether, hexane-1,6-diol diglycidyl ether, ethylene glycol diglycidyl ether, cyclohexanedimethanol diglycidyl ether, resorcinol diglycidyl ether, glycerol diglycidyl ether, glycerol triglycidyl ether, glycerol propoxylate triglycidyl ether, polyglycerol polyglycidyl ether, p-aminophenol triglycidyl ether, polypropylene glycol diglycidyl ether, pentaerythritol tetraglycidyl ether, sorbitol polyglycidyl ether, trimethylolpropane triglycidyl ether, castor oil triglycidyl ether, diaminobiphenyl tetraglycidyl ether, soya oil epoxide, adipic acid, maleic acid, phthalic acid, maleic anhydride, succinic anhydride, dodecylsuccinic anhydride, phthalic anhydride, trimellitic anhydride, pyromellitic anhydride, dimethoxydimethylsilane, diethoxydimethylsilane, toluene diisocyanate, and diphenylmethane diisocyanate, ~~and mixtures thereof.~~